

REMARKS

In accordance with the above amendments, certain inconsistencies between reference characters in the text and on the drawing figures have been corrected. These corrections should overcome the objections to the disclosure raised by the Examiner in Item 12 of the present Official Action. Claims 13-14 have been canceled, without prejudice, and claims 1, 7 and 9 have been amended. Claims 1-12 remain under consideration in this application.

In accordance with an earlier telephone restriction requirement, applicants were requested to elect an invention from the following groups of claims:

- I. Claims 1-12, drawn to a movable shaft sealing system;
- II. Claims 13-14, drawn to a sealing gland.

Applicants provisionally elected Group I containing claims 1-12, reserving the right to traverse. Applicants presently confirm this election.

The allowance of claims 1-12 is gratefully acknowledged and, accordingly, applicants have canceled claims 13-14, without prejudice. Therefore, applicants believe that claims 1-12 are in condition for allowance and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments, taken together with the remarks herein, applicants believe that the remaining claims are in condition for allowance and re-allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIKOLAI & MERSEREAU, P.A.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. G. Mersereau".

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing Amendment in response to the Official Action of April 24, 2006, in application Serial No. 10/813,180, filed on March 30, 2004, of Marlon D. Harris et al, entitled "MIXING EQUIPMENT SEALING DEVICE", a copy of each of the Replacement Sheets of drawings and a Transmittal Letter are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, postage prepaid, on May 10, 2006.



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Attorney for Applicants

Date of Signature: May 10, 2006